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BENTON & SMITH NUT TREE NURSERY *(Wassaic)*
 DESCRIPTION AND PRICE LIST 1943-1944 N.Y.

Our policy is to carry as standard varieties, only those we have grown here and which have fruited, proving that they are adapted to this locality and latitude, or those varieties, which have their origin in such locations as to make us very sure that they will mature their fruit here and that the trees will prove hardy here. We also honor the findings of the variety tests at Cornell University as they are situated somewhat farther north than we.

We also plan to keep abreast of the development of northern nut growing, from time to time adding to our list such of the very best varieties as prove adaptable to this latitude. We will occasionally have extra trees of varieties which we will advocate only for more southern locations until they have proven themselves here, or for those who are collecting various varieties for testing.

We have just experienced a very poor propagating season. First- The severe cold of last February 16th destroyed all our persian (English) walnut grafting wood and may have weakened our wood of other species. Second- The extreme wet weather at grafting time caused the stocks to bleed so profusely that the scions were drowned out, our walnut grafting was a complete failure and our hickory grafting was far below par.

Therefore our stock for this season is limited to two and three year old trees with some one year old hickories. However our price for the older trees will remain the same as for the year old trees.

We will fill orders in the order they are received and as our stock of many varieties is very limited we advise ordering early and we will hold trees until you desire delivery, thus you may avoid disappointment.

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HEARTNUTS

The heartnuts, at least the varieties we have under test, have passed the test of hardiness with flying colors. They not only were uninjured by the cold of last February 16th (-34° F.) but they blossomed and fruited normally this summer.

THE FODERMAIER- The nut of this variety is of good size, cracks easily, the kernels in large part coming out in whole halves. In flavor it is one of the very best.

The tree grows rapidly, bears annually, and in the winter of 1933-34 the parent tree withstood temperatures of -30 to -34° F. without any apparent injury, this coupled with last winter's test of several grafts of this variety should quite definitely establish its hardiness.

✓ THE WRIGHT - This variety first fruited for us in 1941 and we consider it equal in nut to the fodermaier and is described by Mr. Reed of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, as being one of the very best. Rapid grower, tree very hardy, as it ripens its nuts early it should be a good variety for the far North, possibly anywhere in the U. S.

These two varieties bloom at the right times to act as pollinizers for each other.

As to damage to heartnuts by the butternut curculio, see paragraph in our booklet on this subject.

Prices of all heartnut trees;

Over 5 feet.....	\$5.00
4 to 5 feet.....	\$4.50
Under 4 feet.....	\$4.00

Measured from point of grafting.

PERSIAN (ENGLISH) WALNUTS.

As our grafting wood was destroyed by the severe cold of last winter and as we had no carry-over of trees from last year due to the killing of the one year old grafts in the nursery, we have no trees of this species for sale this year.

We hope to have a good supply for next season. While the present situation is rather discouraging we are quite sure that in the future it will prove to be a step forward and will be a big help in our efforts to establish the Persian walnut in the Northeast.

None of our named varieties, except Crath No. 1, showed very serious damage by the cold of last winter. Our older tree of Crath No. 1 was killed so we will discontinue this variety unless some one especially wants it for more Southern planting.

HICKORIES.

At present nut growers are almost overwhelmed with a tremendous list of varieties of hickories, of many of which very little is known as to their relative merits. This is the result of nut contests and the searching-out of superior nut trees by nut enthusiasts.

In a few years much more will be known about these various varieties as several test orchards are being established in different parts of the country to test them for different latitudes and conditions. We have such an orchard started in which we have more than a hundred different named varieties of hickories and hickory hybrids, these are just beginning to bear. We have ratings on a few varieties.

At present the best guide available as to the best varieties to plant is a list prepared by Mr. C. A. Reed, Associate Pomologist of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Mr. Reed is no doubt the best author-

ity at present on nut varieties. Mr. Reed has listed 14 varieties as the ones he considers best and marks them A., then he has listed 12 more varieties that he considers second best and marks them B. However he states that time may prove some varieties on the B list to be superior to some varieties on the A list, also varieties not on either list may later prove to be superior to any of those listed.

Another equally valuable source of such information, especially for the Northeast, is a copy of "Arnoldia" written by Dr. L. H. Mac Daniels, Head of the Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture, Cornell University and printed by the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

✓ ANTHONY NO. L- A true shagbark. The original tree grows near Sterling, Ill. and has been known for many years. Rated B by Mr. Reed.

✓ BEEMAN- A shagbark. The original tree grows near New Preston, Conn. Said to be an annual bearer. So far as we know it has never been entered in any contest and has not been rated by Mr. Reed. It's strongest recommendation until further tested is it's northern origin. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ BERGER- A shellbark. Took first prize in the miscellaneous hickory class of the Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest of 1934. The original tree grows near Cove Gap, Penna. Rated A by Mr. Reed.

✓ DAVIS- A shagbark. First prize winner in the New York & New England contest of 1934 (Best of 442 entries) Nut of medium size, cracking quality very good, flavor true shagbark, sweet and rich, a vigorous grower. The original tree grows in Dutchess County, N. Y. 41° 45' N. Latitude, will probably mature it's nuts somewhat farther north. According to our grafts of this variety two of which have come into bearing and of two or more grafts at Cornell, the Davis gives promise of being a very good consistant bearer. The nuts from our graft (1942 crop) did not crack as well as we had hoped they would, however the nuts from the grafts at Cornell cracked considerably better. We do not know the reason for this except our nut may have been too well filled not leaving room for the shell to crack away from the kernel. We still consider it a very good nut. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ FOX- A shagbark. First prize winner in the Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest of 1934. Nut somewhat larger than Davis. Cracking quality good, flavor the very best true shagbark quality. A vigorous grower. Original tree grows near Fonda, N. Y.

We were very disappointed by the nuts grown on our Fox graft. It did not make nearly as good a showing as did the Davis. As there is a considerable of a mystery regarding this variety which has led some to believe that there is a possibility of bud variation in the original tree. We, at our own expense, made the trip to Fonda last Spring and secured grafting wood from various parts of the original tree. These lots of grafting wood were labeled as to the part of the tree from whence they came and later we grafted them onto stocks in our test orchard, we made several grafts from each lot of wood and succeeded in securing living grafts from all but one lot of wood. Later we will find out if there is a variation of the nuts from the differ-

ent parts of the original tree and at the same time will segregate the good from the poor.

In the mean time we believe the greatest asset of this variety is its earliness. It should succeed considerably farther north than here (Our latitude is 41° 45' N. Lat.). In these far Northern locations it may be as good or better than any other variety that can be grown there.

✓ GLOVER- A shagbark. An old variety which has stood the test of time. The original tree grows near Shelton, Conn.

We have seen only a few nuts of this variety, these were grown on a graft at New Preston, Conn. In all respects they were just about the best hickory nuts we have ever seen and cracked. They were large, cracked out perfectly and the quality was of the very best.

At present this is the "number one" hickory in our estimation. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ GOHEEN- A shagbark. Second prize winner in the Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest of 1934. Original tree grows near Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ HAGEN- A shagbark. Discovered by Snyder Bros. of Center Point, Iowa. It probably originated in Iowa. Rated A by Mr. Reed.

✓ HAND- A shagbark. Also discovered in 1920 by Snyder Bros. Also probably an Iowa nut. Rated A by Mr. Reed.

✓ HEIBNER- A shagbark. Original tree grows near Danville, Iowa. Rated B by Mr. Reed.

✓ JOLLIFFEE- A shagbark. This appears to be a very good variety but the original tree grows near Uffington, West Virginia, so we do not advocate it for northern planting until it has proven itself here in the North. Rated A by Mr. Reed.

✓ KENTUCKY- A shagbark. Original tree grows near East View, Kentucky. Last winter we saw nuts of this variety which were grown at Ithaca, N. Y. They were well matured and rated very high as tested by Dr. MacDaniels. The only criticism being that the shell was a little too thin for best cleavage and kernels showed a slight tendency to cling to the shell. So we now recommend this variety for Northern planting.

✓ KIRTLAND- A shagbark. This is one of the older named varieties and has stood the test of time as it is still one of the top listed varieties. Original tree grows near Yalesville, Conn.

Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ LINGENFELTER- A shagbark. Original tree grows near McKee, Pa. Mr. Reed considers this nut with a good deal of favor as to bearing and especially as to cracking quality, based on the record of a graft growing in a test planting at Beltsville, Md. However until our graft of this variety bears we can hardly recommend it for planting north of Pennsylvania. Rated A by Mr. Reed.

✓ MILLER- Original tree grows near North Branch, Mich. Should be well suited to Northern planting. Rated B by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

- ✓ MINNIE- A shagbark. We do not know where this variety originates. Our graft of this variety bore in the Fall of 1942 and the nuts rated well when tested by Mr. Reed. They ripened early so we can now recommend this variety for Northern planting.
- ✓ MURDOCK- A shagbark. Of far Northern origin, original tree grows on the shores of Lake Champlain a few miles north of the village of Crown Point, N. Y. Cracking quality good, flavor very best, size of nut about medium. This variety should succeed to the northern limits of the shagbark.
- ✓ NEILSON- A shagbark. The original tree grows in Ontario, Canada. It is considered one of the best and should do well in the North. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".
- ✓ SHAUL- We do not know where this originates or when it was discovered. Rated B by Mr. Reed.
- ✓ STRATFORD- A shagbark. We do not know where this variety originates, probably from Iowa as it was introduced in 1930 by Snyder Bros. Rated B by Mr. Reed.
- ✓ SWAIM- A shagbark. Original tree grows near South Bend, Indiana. So cannot be too certain for the North until it has proven itself. Rated B by Mr. Reed.
- ✓ WATSON - A shagbark. Original tree grows near Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Won seventh place in the New York & New England contest of 1934. Should be a good variety for the far North.
- ✓ WESCHKE - A shagbark. This variety comes from Iowa and is recommended highly by Mr. Carl Weschke of St. Paul, Minn. So must be well adapted to the far North.
- ✓ WHITNEY- A shagbark. First prize winner in the Ohio contest of 1934. Original tree grows near Beresa, Ohio. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".
- ✓ WILCOX- A shagbark. Second prize winner in the Ohio contest of 1934. Original tree grows near Geneva, Ohio. Our graft of this variety bore in the Fall of 1942. Samples of the nuts were rated very well both by Mr. Reed and Dr. MacDaniels. So we can highly recommend this variety for the North.

We have some fine grafts of each of the varieties listed.

Prices of all hickory trees are \$3.00 each. The one year old grafts are very small, but we personally prefer them to the older grafts. We have several two year old grafts and some three year olds. State age graft you prefer and if we can supply the variety desired in the age desired we will do so.

BLACK WALNUTS

All our black walnut trees are two year olds with a few three year olds. This is due to the fact that our walnut grafting last Spring was a complete failure. However we have a fair carry-over of most varieties listed. Prices are no more than for the one year old grafts.

ALLEN- The original tree grows near Middleville, Mich. $42^{\circ} 45'$ N. Lat. First prize winner in 1932-33 Michigan contest. Looks like one of the best for Northern planting. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ BENTON- The original tree grows on Mr. Benton's home farm, $41^{\circ} 45'$ N. Lat. Won second prize in the New York & New England 1934 contest.

We had nuts of the 1942 crop rated by Mr. Reed. They rated as follows; number of nuts per pound-34 dry 30 damp, percent of kernel- 29.40, percent of quarters- 86.68, size- small, shell thickness- medium, cleavage- very good, plumpness- very good, color- medium, quality-good, flavor- good, rated A-, promising! We personally consider the flavor of Benton to be superior to most other varieties, others who have tried them have expressed the same view. We are located $41^{\circ} 45'$ N. Lat. and about 550 feet above sea level. We do not recommend planting Benton north of 42° N. Lat. and there only at low altitudes as we seem to be near it's northern limit. It is one of the good ones where it will succeed.

✓ CLARK- The original tree grows near Lamoille, Minn. N. Lat. Won fourth prize in 1934 Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest. Looks like another good one for the North. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ DOYLE- We have two trees of this variety for sale. We know nothing about it.

✓ KORN- The original tree grows near Berrion Springs, Mich. $42^{\circ} 15'$ N. Lat.

✓ MINTLE- The original tree grows near Glenwood, Iowa. 41° N. Lat.

✓ MONTEREY- The original tree grows near Bird-in-Hand, Pa. $40^{\circ} 5'$ N. Lat.

✓ OHIO- The original tree grows near McCutcheonville, Ohio. 41° N. Lat. One of the older varieties.

✓ PINE CREST- The original tree grows near Richfield, Pa. $40^{\circ} 45'$ N. Lat.

✓ SIFFORD- The original tree grows near Buchanan, Va. $37^{\circ} 3i'$ N. Lat. Recommended only for Southern planting until it has fruited here or in some other Northern location.

✓ SNYDER- The original tree grows near Newfield, N. Y. $42^{\circ} 20'$ N. Lat. Won first prize in the New York & New England contest of 1934. The nut is large, thin shelled, cracks out well.

We had a very nice crop on our graft of this variety in 1942. We sent a sample of the nuts to Mr. Reed for testing, they rated as follows; number of nuts per pound- 21 dry 20 damp, percent kernel- 25.99, percent quarters- 94.90, size- large, shell- thin, cleavage- excellent, plumpness- mostly good, color- dark, (nuts were left on tree until they were too ripe, shucks had turned dark staining the kernels) quality- good, flavor- good, rated- A- promising. This shows a very good nut and it will mature it's crop considerably farther north than we are located, $41^{\circ} 45'$ N. Lat. 550 feet above sea level.

Tree is not as rapid a grower as some other varieties but it gives promise of being a good bearer. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ SPARROW- The original tree grows near Lomax, Ill. $40^{\circ} 35'$ N. Lat. This variety fruited for us first in 1941. We had enough nuts of this variety in 1942 so we could send a sample to Mr. Reed for testing. It rated as follows; Number of nuts per pound- 27 dry 26 damp, percent kernel- 29.94, percent quarters- 96.22, size- medium, shell thickness- medium, cleavage- very good, plumpness- very good, color- bright, quality- rich, flavor- sweet, rated A, very promising.

This nut is one of the very best and will mature it's crop somewhat farther north than we are located.

✓ STABLER- The original tree grows near Howard, Md. $39^{\circ} 10'$ N. Lat. one of the older varieties.

✓ STAMBOUGH- The original tree grows near Galion, Ill. $40^{\circ} 8'$ N. Lat. This variety won first prize in the Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest of 1926. The nut is one of the very best being large, thin shelled and of excellant cracking quality.

Our graft bore nuts enough this year so that we will send a sample to Mr. Reed for testing. These nuts are not quite as well matured as they should be so while it is a very fine nut we are just a little too far north for it. It will probably mature it's nuts properly at 41° N. Lat. if altitude is not over 600 feet above sea level.

✓ STONY BROOK- This variety was discovered by Dr. MacDaniels. We believe the original tree is in Ohio.

✓ TASTERITE-The original tree grows near Ithaca, N. Y. $42^{\circ} 25'$ N. Lat. Nut rather small but of excellant quality. We recommend it highly for Northern planting. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

✓ THOMAS- Original tree grows near King of Prussia, Pa. $40^{\circ} 5'$ N. Lat. This variety is the oldest and most nearly standard of any of the named varieties of black walnut.

Our oldest graft of this variety has borne nuts for several years but it has not matured it's nuts. Because of this we have not advised planting it so far north as this. This year we have discovered what has been the trouble with this graft, it is growing on ground that is too low and damp. We have read that Thomas does not do well in damp locations. Two trees grafted with wood from this older graft, bore nuts this year and they are well filled and matured, they are growing on dry ground. So we now recommend Thomas as far north as we are located except on low damp ground.

✓ THROP- The original tree grows near Greensburg, Ind. $39^{\circ} 20'$ N. Lat. Fourth place in the 1926 Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest.

✓ TODD- We believe this is a New York or a Ohio nut. It is well recommended but we know very little about it as yet.

✓ VAIL- We know nothing about this variety.

✓ WANDA- The original tree grows near Moorhead, Iowa. $41^{\circ} 15'$ N. Lat.
Well thought of by Prof. Drake.

✓ WIARD- Original tree grows near Upsilanti, Mich. $42^{\circ} 15'$ N. Lat.
Third prize winner in the 1934 Northern Nut Growers Assn. contest.
This looks like another good one for the North. Recommended by Dr.
MacDaniels in "Arnoldia".

Prices of all black walnut trees.

Over 5 feet.....	\$3.00
4 to 5 foot	\$2.50
3 to 4 foot.....	\$2.25
under 3 foot.....	\$2.00

Practically all our trees are the \$3.00 size as they are all two
and three year old trees.

Terms - Cash with order except by special arrangements. All
prices F. O. B. Wassaic, N. Y.